Annex "A," Subparagraph 1k,

Sociological Background

RELIGION

771 The ancient Finns evidently worshipped the spirits of their ancestors and the powers of nature, many of which were personified. All the same, they never had such a clearcut hierarchy of gods as their Scandinavian neighbors, nor did 782 they build any temples for their deities. The sacrificial ceremonies were conducted in sacred 769 glens, and trees were lopped to commemorate the dead, who otherwise might have proved 779 harmful for their surviving relatives. Roman 771 Catholicism, which was established in the country at the time of the Swedish conquest, did not penetrate very deeply into the consciousness of the people, especially so far as distant parts of Finland were concerned. The reformer of